

**Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regular Meeting  
July 7, 2010**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission convened on July 7, 2010 in Room 4080 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 Fifth Avenue.

Commission Chair Robert Mahon called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Commissioners Lynne Iglitzin, Nancy Miller, Bill Sherman and Vice-Chair Tarik Burney were present. Commissioners Ed Carr and Michele Radosevich absent were. Executive Director Wayne Barnett and staff members Anthony Adams, Kate Flack, Polly Grow and Mardie Holden were also present.

**1) Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**Action Items**

**2) Interviews and selection of new Commission-appointed Commissioner**

The Commission interviewed four candidates for the vacancy in the Commission-appointed position. After deliberation and a review of the candidates, the Chair moved to appoint Richard Cohan as the newest member of the Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission. Vice-Chair Tarik Burney seconded, and the Commission voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Richard Cohan.

**3) Approval of minutes for June 2, 2010 regular meeting**

Commissioner Miller moved to approve the minutes from the June 2, 2010 regular meeting and Vice-Chair Burney seconded. The Commission voted unanimously to approve the minutes as drafted.

**4) Appointment of Executive Director**

Wayne Barnett's term as Seattle Ethics and Elections Executive Director was up for

reappointment. Commissioner Bill Sherman moved that Mr. Barnett should be reappointed to another six year term, and Commissioner Iglitzin seconded the motion. The Commission voted unanimously to reappoint Mr. Barnett to his current position.

#### **5) Open Government Ombudsman budget request**

The Executive Director reported on his conversation with the City Attorney, who welcomed the creation of an Open Government Ombudsman housed with the Commission. Several commissioners expressed an interest in hearing directly from the City Attorney on the legal issues presented by the creation of this position.

Commissioner Sherman felt that he did not have a sufficient amount of information to vote either way, and said that he would abstain from voting until he could get more information from the City Attorney and Executive Offices. The Chair expressed reservations about moving forward without clear direction from the City Council. The Commission postponed further consideration of this agenda item.

#### **Discussion Items**

#### **6) Case # 10-WBI-0927-1 Seattle Parks and Recreation**

This case involved work performed at Kinneer Park that will need to be torn out because it is in a steep slope area and not consistent with long-range plans for the park. The Executive Director concluded that this was an error by Parks Department employees, but not a gross waste of public funds or a danger to the public. Commissioner Miller agrees with the decision of the Executive Director.

#### **Executive Director's Report**

Chris Bushnell paid his \$500 fine for his violation of the Ethics Code.

The Commission has not yet been asked identify any savings for the next biennium. The City is exploring consolidating Information Technology functions, but the Executive Director pushed back, explaining that the Commission's independence would be threatened by having control of how and when improvements are made to the Commission's reporting programs housed in the Executive Department.

The June 2, 2010 Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission Regular Meeting was adjourned at 4:57 P.M.

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